

To finish this final assembly step takes great dexterity, patience, balance and time. In order for a single person 60 to be able to complete this final step, the installer 60 needs to hold in one hand 62 the fan blade 30 and already attached mounting arm 40, and to position a screw driver 70 to the heads of screws 50 with the other hand 64. The installer must be able to balance the mounting screws 50 on the tip of the screw driver 70, insert the screws upwardly through the holes 44-45 in the mounting arm, making sure not to accidentally drop the screws 50 and then screw the screws 50 into the mating holes 25 on the rotor 20 all while still holding the blade 30 and arm 40. This assembly requires the installer to have to constantly hold both hands 62 and 64 raised high above their head, while again standing on a stool or on a ladder.

Page 2, lines 3-13, change paragraph as follows:

Many problems occur from this traditional method of having one person installing a ceiling fan. Screws 50 can and do accidentally fall and become lost causing more time and more expense to finish the installation. The installer 60 often has to constantly re position the blade 30 and arm 40 in order to be able to properly line up the through-holes 42-45 in the mounting arms 40 with their respective mating holes 25 in the bottom of rotor 20. The blade 30 and mounting arm 40 have been known to fall on and cause injury to the user 60 during assembly.

Additionally, the user can lose their balance and injure themselves as well as falling off the ladder and stool. Additional problems also occur after installation. For example, uneven tightening of each of the plural fasteners that connect the mounting arm to the motor has resulted in wobble effects when the ceiling fan system is running. Thus, the current operation of assembly has become known as a frustrating, undesirable, difficult, tedious, time consuming and sometimes dangerous task.

Page 3, lines 6-7, change paragraph as follows:

The third objective of the present invention is to provide detachable blade arms to ceiling fans ~~that~~ wherein the centrifugal force of the fans locks to the blades in place.

Page 5, lines 9-10, change as follows:

Fig. 1 shows a prior art view of a blade with mounting arm attached to a ceiling fan motor and rotor.

Page 5, lines 11-12, change as follows:

Fig. 2A is a perspective exploded view of a first embodiment of the slip and lock fasteners,, novel grommet washer, mounting arm, and rotor used for the subject invention.

Page 6, lines 2-27 and page 7, lines 1-26, change as follows:

Referring to Figures 2A-2C, a mounting arm 110 has one end 114 connected to blade arms(not shown). End 114 can be connected to blade arms similar to that shown in Fig. 1. Alternatively, mounting arm 110 can be connected to detachable slide and lock blade fasteners such as those described in U.S. Serial No. 09/200, 607 filed Nov. 30, 1998 now U.S. Pat. 6,171,059 and U.S. Application Serial No. 08/851,501 filed on May 5, 1997 now U.S. Pat. No. 6,010,306 both by the same assignees as that of the subject invention, which are both incorporated by reference. End 112 of blade arm 110 has dual through-holes 115(~~only one is shown~~). Each through-hole 115, ~~115'~~ has a circular indentation on the top surface 117 of the arm 110 for allowing a lower lip portion 132 of a rubber type gasket 130 to be located therein. Through-holes 115, 115' can have a threaded interior wall for receiving the threaded shaft 125 of flat headed screw fastener 120. The upper surface 123 of the flat portion 122 of fastener 120 can be formed with a regular head, Phillips head, and the like surface, to allow the fastener 120 to be screwed into mounting arm end 112. The bottom 129 of fastener 120 can have a Phillips head or regular head screw surface to allow a user to remove the fastener 120 once the ceiling fan embodiment 100 has been installed. Deformable means 130 can be a single rubber gasket having a cylindrical lip portion 132, a cylindrical mid-portion 134, and an upper cylindrical lip portion 136, which can be used as a vibration isolator between the ceiling fan rotor 20 and the mounting arm 110. The mid-portion 134 of gasket 130 is fit within through-holes 115, 115' with upper lip portion sandwiched between the flat head 122 of fastener 120 and the end shield ~~125~~25.

Although two gaskets 130 and 130' are shown, one gasket could be used where the gaskets are connected by a single connecting upper lip portion 136. Alternatively, only the lip portions 136 of the gaskets 130 can be used as washers for vibration isolation, and so forth. Once the protruding fasteners 120, 120' and their respective gaskets 130, 130' are attached to mounting arm end 112, the entire mounting arm 110 is raised and the flat heads 122 of the protruding fasteners are inserted upward in the direction of arrow B1 and B2 into the larger openings 26, 26' of the key-hole slots and the mounting arm 110 is pulled outward in the direction of arrow C until the heads 122 of fasteners 120, 120' and upper lip portions 136 of gaskets 130, 130' slide into smaller key-hole slot openings 28, 28' where the tight fit of the exterior of mid-portions 134 of gaskets 130, 130' locks the mounting arms in place. An optional spring clip 140 similar to that described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,171,059, and U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/851,501 filed on May 5, 1997 now U.S. Pat. No. 6,010,306, both by the same assignees as that of the subject invention, which are both incorporated by reference, can be used to further lock the mounting arms 110 in place on the endshield bottom 25 of rotor 20. Although two protruding fasteners and two slots are shown for each mounting arm, the invention can be practiced with one protruding fastener and slot, and three or more protruding fasteners and slots.

Page 8, lines 1-4, change paragraph as follows:

Fig. 2E is an enlarged view of the slide and lock fastener of Fig. 2C with the protruding member fastener 150 initially attached to the rotor end shield 125 and the ~~slot 115, 117~~ through-hole 115 on the mounting arm end 112, The mounting arm 110 can then be attached similar to that previously described above.